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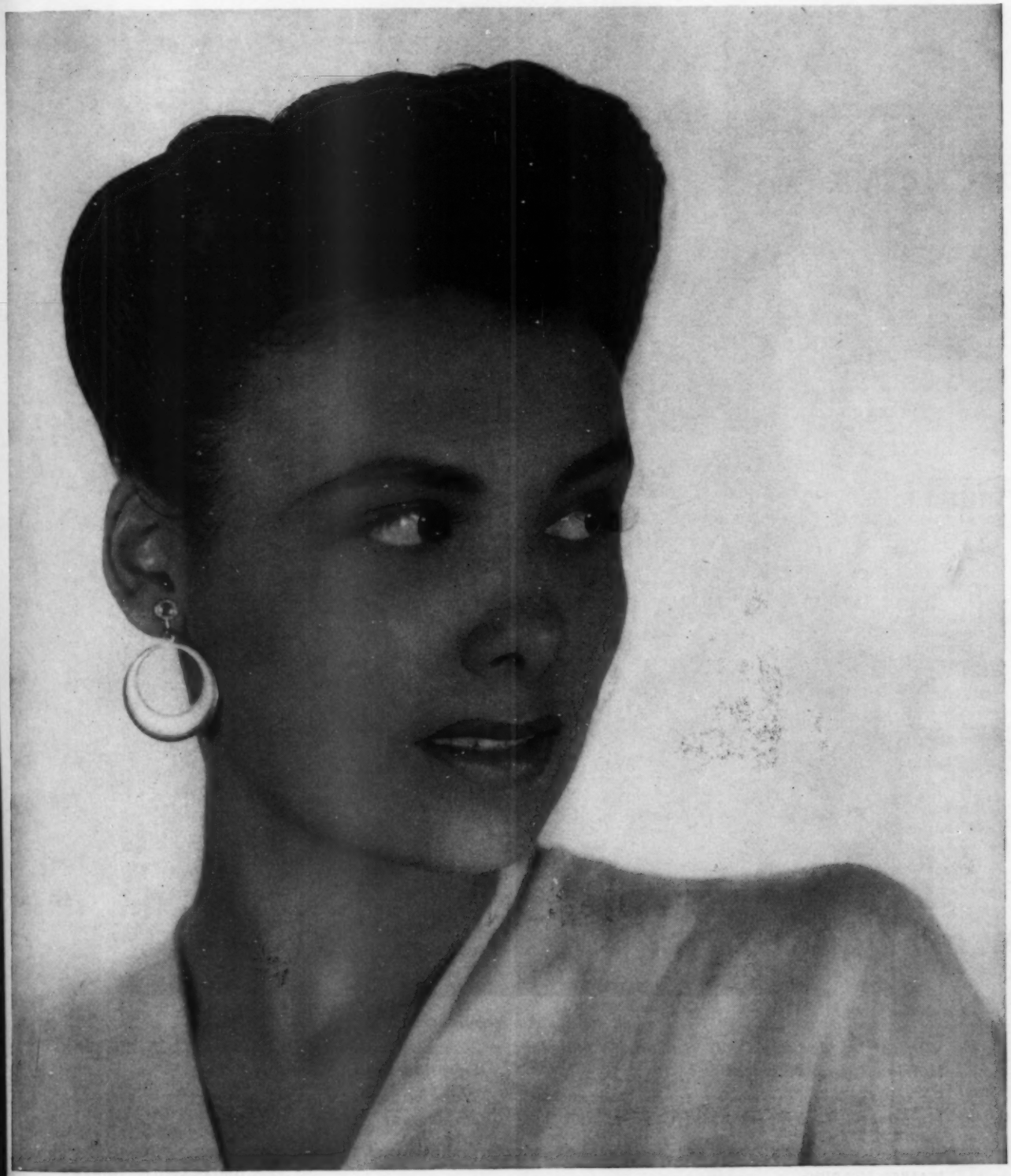

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College and School News

Gammon Theological Seminary observed its fifty-fifth anniversary on December 3, 1942. Rev. Nat G. Long of Atlanta's Glenn Memorial Methodist Church delivered the address.

Bennett College last month celebrated the sixty-ninth anniversary of its founding and the 16th year as a standard college devoted entirely to the higher education of Negro women. Dr. Amos A. Thornburg, pastor of Matthewson Street Methodist Church of Providence, R. I., delivered the principal address. Speaking for the faculty, Barbara Ware, home economics director, presented from the faculty a gift of $1,000. Helene Jacobs, senior and president of the student senate, presented a gift of $450.

Dr. Leslie Pinckney Hill, president of Cheyney State Teachers College, spoke at state teachers colleges at La-Crosse, Wis., Winona, Makato, and Bemidji, Minn.; Minot and Dickinson, N. D.; Eau Claire, Stevens Point, Milwaukee and Whitewater, Wisconsin during November.

As a "patriotic duty to help in the period of labor shortage," President Howard D. Greeg of Delaware State College released 85 male students to help with the Christmas mail rush at post offices in Philadelphia, Baltimore, Georgia and Alabama. Arrangement has been made for a class of 20 male students to study radio under N.Y.A. auspices in the Administration's Dover, Delaware, shop, after which they will be ready for war jobs or the U. S. Signal Corps.

The principal address at the 52nd Annual Tuskegee Conference at Tuskegee Institute December 16–17 was Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard. Governor-elect Chauncey Sparks of Alabama was a platform guest.

Roy La Grone, a Tuskegee student, has illustrated the book "John Henry" by James Cloyd Bowman, eminent author.

Vernon J. B. Chambers, only Negro graduate of the Pasadena Playhouse School of the Theatre, has been temporarily appointed director of the Communications Theatre at Hampton Institute to succeed Owen Dodson who enlisted in the U. S. Navy. Chambers is a native of Panama.

Dr. Viktor Lowenfeld, head of the

(*Continued on page* 5)

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Sports: Baseball Commissioner Landis continues policy of sidestepping direct questions concerning Negroes' position in major league baseball.

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Replacing Army-bound Prof. Cashius M. Thomas in the mathematics department of **Shaw University** is Miss Stephany A. Brown of Winston-Salem, N. C., who will teach physics. She is a Shaw alumna and has done additional work at the University of Michigan.

Shaw celebrated its seventy-seventh anniversary on Nov. 20, 1942. The speaker was Dr. Joe E. Brown, Keystone, W. Va., assistant health officer, Coroner and member of the City Council.

The seminar room in the Benson Library at **St. Augustine's College** was dedicated Nov. 18, 1942 to the memory of Mrs. Sarah Taylor Hunter, wife of Dr. Aaron B. Hunter, for many years head of the college. New furnishings for the room were made possible by a bequest of Mrs. Hunter who died in Raleigh, N. C., June 13, 1940 in her 94th year. The room is furnished with seminar tables and chairs, and accommodates 75 persons at a time. It contains also fine specimens of cabinet work and furniture and European paintings supplied by the Hunters.

Lincoln University (Mo.) School of Law announced in November that two of its first three graduates and two of the students who have completed five-sixths of their work have taken and successfully passed the Missouri bar examination.

The 1942–43 **Howard University** National Collegiate Competitive Scholarship Examinations began on Nov. 9, 1942, at Austin high school in Knoxville, Tenn., and will continue to be given in various sections of the country until June 4, announces Dr. James M. Nabrit, Jr., secretary of the university. High school seniors and graduates are eligible if able to meet entrance requirements to the College of Liberal Arts or the School of Music, and the contest is limited to applicants for admission to the freshman class. More than $10,000 will be given in scholarships to the winners.

A. W. Dent, president of **Dillard University,** addressed the opening session of the Louisiana Colored Teachers' Association convention in Shreveport, La., in mid-November.

At the fiftieth anniversary celebration at **Florida Normal and Industrial Institute** on December 6, 1942, the speakers were Dr. J. R. E. Lee, President of

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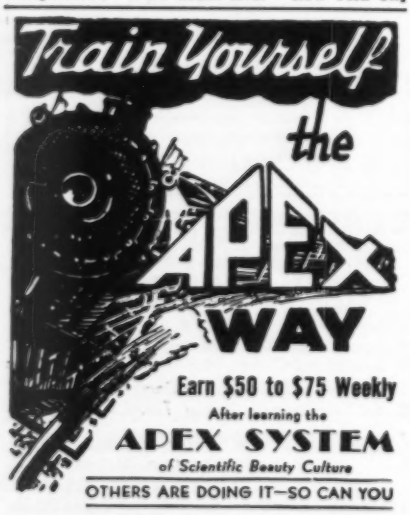

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Dean Brailsford R. Brazeal of **Morehouse College** has been awarded the Ph.D. degree in economics by Columbia University. His dissertation was entitled "The Origin and Development of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters," and will shortly be published by the American Council on Public Affairs. He has been connected with Morehouse College as student and teacher for nearly twenty years.

The People's College Radio Hour, sponsored by the People's College of **Atlanta University,** began November 25, 1942, over Station WGST in Atlanta, Ga., where it will be a weekly feature lasting fifteen minutes from 4:15 to 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday afternoons.

American Red Cross plans establishment of all-colored club for soldiers in London.

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International: Ethiopia, United Nations member, now eligible for lend-lease aid.

Approximately 50,000 Senegalese troops stationed at Dakar fight alongside United Nations.

Netherlands West Indian Cecil Desmond Woods given medal by Royal Humane Society of London for heroism in rescue of shipmates.

Books: Included in handbook, *Voices of Democracy,* quotations from five Negro educators: Drs. Charles H. Wesley and Charles S. Johnson, William Pickens, Booker T. Washington and James Weldon Johnson.

Current magazines carrying articles concerning Negroes include American Magazine, January; Collier's, December; National Digest, December; Forbes, December and Common Ground, winter issue.

Ralph L. Wood's anthology, *A Treasury of the Familiar,* contains a Booker T. Washington speech, "American Standard".

Two WAAC companies now at Fort Huachuca under command of Third Officers Frances C. Alexander and Nathalie F. Donaldson.

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Volume 50, No. 1 *Whole Number 385*

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A new photograph of Lena Horne, now appearing at the exclusive Savoy-Plaza Hotel in New York City

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THE CRISIS *was founded in* 1910 *and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It is published monthly at 69 Fifth Avenue, N. Y., by The Crisis Publishing Co., Inc., Dr. Louis T. Wright, president; Walter White, secretary; and Mrs. Lillian A. Alexander, treasurer. The subscription price is* $1.50 *a year or* 15¢ *a copy. Foreign subscriptions* $1.75. *The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while* THE CRISIS *uses every care, it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 2, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879, and additional second class entry at Albany, N. Y.*

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THE COVER

Miss Lena Horne who attracted attention at downtown New York night clubs a year or two ago, and prior to that as a singer with various "name" bands, has now a seven-year contract with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, largest of the Hollywood studios. Miss Horne is appearing currently at the exclusive Savoy-Plaza Hotel in New York, having followed to that spot Hildegarde, acclaimed by many as the premier chanteuse in America. Miss Horne is reported to be doing SRO business. This is the first time a colored singer (not an orchestra) has been booked in a hotel of the class of the Savoy-Plaza. Miss Horne has one of the leads in the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer picture "Cabin in the Sky" scheduled for release in March.

•

NEXT MONTH

In February there will be two photographic features which we had hoped to include in January: The new pictures of Negroes in the Army and the first of a series of photographs, "Queens of the Colleges." This latter series will consist of pictures of co-eds voted the most beautiful on their respective campuses by popular ballot.

We hope to have, also, Arthur B. Spingarn's annual review of books by Negro authors published during 1942. There will be, in addition, some observations by the editor on his trip to the Pacific Coast; and possibly (if it is approved in time) an article on the Negro Army nurses at Fort Huachuca, Arizona.

•

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

L. Herbert Henegan, now with the Department of Agriculture Information Service, has been a member of the staffs of the *Call*, Kansas City, Missouri, and the *Afro-American* newspapers. Chester B. Himes is a California writer, known to *Crisis* readers for his "Lunching at the Ritzmore" in the October issue.

Harry Paxton Howard whose article on India is concluded in this issue, will be remembered by *Crisis* readers for his "Americans in Concentration Camps" in the September issue. Mr. Howard lived in the Far East for twenty-five years, nineteen in China and five in Japan. He is an author and lecturer, and at one time was editor of the China *Courier* at Shanghai. Thelma Thurston Gorham is a graduate in journalism of the University of Minnesota and was at one time a member of the staff of the *Call* in Kansas City, Missouri. Constance H. Curtis is a member of the staff of *The Crisis*.

An Open Letter to President Roosevelt—An Editorial

Dear Mr. President:

Early in 1943, a year and a month after Pearl Harbor, you will stand before the Congress and give your message on the State of the Nation. On this occasion, Mr. President, we venture to inject our observations upon the feelings of one-tenth of the population of our nation, a tenth which has been loyal to America since that day on Boston Common when a black man was the first to die before the guns of the Redcoats in the war for Independence.

We venture this injection not because we feel our reactions are of paramount importance, but because you, yourself, and, indeed all the great statesmen of the United Nations cause, have said that without unity, without marching along together and fighting shoulder to shoulder, we will lose this war and fall victim to the dictators.

We believe, therefore, that any practice which threatens that unity, which alienates a tenth of our people at a time when our life as a nation may depend upon mustering ten tenths, is worthy of your attention as we proceed upon the second year of war.

What you have done

We are not unaware of what you have done thus far on this problem. In the fall of 1940 you promised that Negroes would be placed in every major branch of the Army, that they would be trained as commissioned officers on a non-segregated basis. You even broke with Army tradition and announced that Negroes would be trained as combat aviators. You appointed a Negro as civilian aide to the Secretary of War and elevated a Negro colonel, a veteran of Regular Army service, to the rank of brigadier general, the first such rank ever held by a Negro in an American army. Our women were accepted in the WAACS.

On the production front you issued Executive Order 8802, directing the abolishing of discrimination in employment in war industries and government agencies. You set up the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice to examine into violations of this order.

In your speeches, and particularly in the one of January 6, 1942, you decried racial discrimination "in any of its ugly forms" and called upon our people to unite against the Axis.

Your administrative officers have taken Negroes into government offices to aid in the further integration of Negro citizens into the war effort and into the life of the country. Your good wife has gone the length and breadth of this land, and over the seas, never neglecting our segment of the population in her travels and comments.

For these actions you and she have suffered vile and un-American condemnation and calumny from some quarters which see not the whole nation and its welfare, not the human family and its multi-colored members, but only their narrow section through their prejudiced eyes and little selves. We are grateful for these things, Mr. President, and for the broad measures which have operated, in some degree, to extend to every American, regardless of race, creed, or color, that equality of opportunity to which Americans are entitled.

But . . .

However, despite your exhortations to unity, and your acts clearly indicating unity as a national policy, the thirteen millions of Negro American citizens have not been made an integral part of the nation's war effort; they are not geared as they should be—or as they passionately desire to be—to an all-out drive for victory.

Their fighting men are, as you promised, in every major branch of the army. Many of them are serving on battlefronts far from our shores. But in their own army they find themselves set apart from their fellow fighters for freedom, in their army theatres, canteens, living quarters and transportation. The manifold methods by which this separation is emphasized have sapped morale sadly and embittered our men—some almost to the point of mutiny.

There are Negro officers, as you promised, but the line officers are confined to the lowest ranks, and promotions are slow in coming. In the 93rd division at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., that complete small army of which Negroes are so proud, we understand there is only *one* Negro captain in the line. We know that we did not have many veteran officers at the start, but we have watched newly-trained white officers rise steadily above our men—in our own division.

Off the military reservations our fighting men have been treated so viciously by their own fellow Americans that many of them have wondered whether the enemy is really across the seas, or here at home. Notorious in this studied cruelty to Negro soldiers has been Alexandria, La.

We are proud, too, of our few fighting pursuit pilots in the Army Air Forces, but none of our lads is a bomber pilot, a bombardier, a navigator, an aerial gunner.

The Navy remains adamant against commissions for our men and has excluded us from the V-1 program. It also bars our women from the WAVES.

On the production front the pressure of sheer necessity has forced the employment of our people in most places, but in too many communities your Executive Order 8802 is being defied and sabotaged by management and labor alike. In too many instances menial tasks and unskilled labor are all that we may secure. In some few instances we are still rigidly excluded from any type of employment.

On what we may call the civilian front we are still lynched. Six persons—two of them boys in their teens—fell victim to mobs during 1942. Millions of us are still disfranchised by one method or another. Six million white Americans and four million of us are barred from the ballot box by the poll tax alone. We still suffer humiliations and discriminations in public places, in travel and in housing.

We, who are willing and anxious to fight for the Four Freedoms, are not free.

Our Nation Is Hurt

Less than a month ago Governor Frank Dixon of Alabama defied the Federal government, the whole war effort, to include the Negro in the fight against oppression, bigotry, and hatred. In this philosophy, Mr. President, we are supposed to fight and die for the freedom of the remotest corners of the world, for every other people, but to be content to remain in, or return to, a "place" in Governor Dixon's world.

We are concerned not alone because of what these things have done to our part of the population, but because of what they are doing to our war effort. We do not live in this world alone. Alabama cannot draw a ring around itself and stand or fall by its vision, its philosophy. There are billions of eyes upon America. Victory itself, and any success we may have in the post-war world may well depend upon the justice we demonstrate now in our treatment of the largest black citizen-minority in a democracy anywhere on earth.

It is needless to protest once again our loyalty to our country. That has been proved generation after generation. But we are loyal to the ideals of this nation, not to the practices which meet us on every hand. Our boys, to the last one, are not fighting—and are not offering to die—to perpetuate those practices. They fight because they wish to aid in wiping out the Sikeston lynchings, as well as the Lidice horrors.

They and we would be heartened and strengthened anew if you, Mr. President, would speak out, notifying the foes of liberty *everywhere* exactly what America expects to buy with the blood and billions she is expending.

FSA Photo

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pollard, whose farm is located near Tuskegee Institute, Ala., who play the leads in "Henry Browne, Farmer," the government film showing what the Negro farmer is doing to help win the war

The Small Farmer Goes to War

By L. Herbert Henegan

Farmers who have borrowed from the Farm Security Administration are doing their part toward helping the nation reach its Food for Freedom goals

FOR the past eight years the U. S. Department of Agriculture has helped hundreds of thousands of low-income farmers—Negro and white—to improve their resources and productive ability.

The Farm Security Administration always has stressed diversified and more abundant food and fibre production among its borrowers. Now this agency of the Department of Agriculture is assisting the half million farm families presently active in the standard rehabilitation program to step up their production of Food for Freedom. Of this number more than 56,000 are Negroes.

Rehabilitation loans are made to low-income farmers unable to obtain credit from banks or other lending institutions. They enable borrowers to acquire livestock, machinery, equipment, seed, fertilizer and other supplies they need to become better producers. The loans are made usually for a five-year period, at five percent interest.

County farm and home management supervisors visit FSA borrowers regularly and help them improve their skills at farming and homemaking. In other words, an educational program, with the farm and the home as the "classrooms", goes along with the loans.

Now the American farmer has been given a huge "war" contract calling for tons of extra food—milk, meat, eggs, vegetables, and fruits to feed our men in the armed services, war workers, civilians and our Allies overseas. Peanuts and soybeans for vegetable oil and long-staple cotton for high explosives are also on the "must" list.

Farmers were asked to turn out in 1942 some 125 billion dozen eggs, for example, and enough other food to total up altogether a 15 percent increase in agricultural production over 1941.

Increase Crops

Food production goals for 1943, recently announced by Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard, call for the "highest production in the history of American agriculture" in the face of the tight situation regarding farm labor, machinery, fertilizer and other production supplies. Here are a few of the increases called for:

Four billion pounds of chickens for meat purposes, an increase of 28 percent over 1942.

Five hundred and sixty million pounds of turkey for the same purpose, an increase of 15 percent.

Eight percent more eggs than were produced in 1942.

An increase of eighteen percent in production of dry edible beans and of 25 percent of dry edible peas.

A ten percent increase in potato production.

Unlimited production of sugar beets and sugar cane.

The program also calls for 10,500,000 acres of soybeans—about the same acreage as devoted to this vegetable-oil crop in 1942. But peanuts will be increased from 4,173,000 acres in 1942 to 5,500,000 acres in 1943.

The large farms are producing at near capacity already. Most of the needed increase in agricultural output will have to come from the small farmer—the man whose farm in the past has yielded an income of less than $900 per year.

Last winter, county FSA supervisors asked borrower-families what increases in the products essential to the war effort they thought they could make during 1942. Here are some of the increases the families pledged:

Commodity	*Increase over 1941*
Milk	1,150,000,000 pounds
Pork (dressed weight)	235,000,000 pounds
Eggs	77,000,000 dozen
Soybeans	7,000,000 bushels
Tomatoes	7,500,000 bushels
Peanuts	2,500,000 bushels
Beef	34,000,000 pounds

Reports from county supervisors indicate that most borrower-families have lived up to their pledges.

The small farmer also represents this nation's largest untapped source of manpower, land power and productive power. The typical farmer in the less than $900 income group produces about $600 worth of farm products. In the Midwest this income could come from two milk cows, 20 pigs, 50 hens, and a garden. In the South it could come from eight acres of cotton, two pigs, and a garden. Such low production has but one meaning: the available family labor is acutely *underemployed*.

Home Use Products Up

Daily, the nation loses between 10 million and 15 million man-hours of potential labor on the small farm, simply because the families who live on them do not have enough productive work to do to keep them busy the year around. This waste of manpower is equivalent to destroying every day 250 million pounds of pork, or 33 million gallons of milk, or 2½ million dozen eggs.

Thousands of small farmers who have received Farm Security loans and technical guidance in the past few years illustrate what the average small farmer can do toward increasing food production when given the opportunity.

A survey made at the end of 1941 of 350,000 families who had completed at least one year as FSA "standard borrowers" showed they had increased the average value of their produce for home use from $163 to $327 per family, or 101 percent since receiving their loans. They had increased the amount of fruits and vegetables canned an average of 114 percent—or from an average of 139 quarts in the year before they received their loans to an average of 297 quarts per family in 1941. They increased milk production for home use from an average of 288 to 472 gallons or 64 percent, and meat production for home use from an average of 252 to 488 pounds.

In addition, the average family stored 27 bushels of fruits and vegetables, used 131 dozen eggs, and 10 gallons of lard. Their net incomes had risen from an average of $480 to $865 per family, or an increase of 80 percent — indicating a higher level of living for the families themselves and reflecting a substantial contribution to the Food for Freedom program.

FSA Photos

(Left) Delores Harris, daughter of FSA Borrower George Harris, Dameron, Maryland, is proud of the canned goods her mother has put up for next year's use. Jack Pollard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pollard, plays an important part in the Department of Agriculture film, "Henry Browne, Farmer". Jack does the milking and other chores around the farm and is proud of the young calf he's raising. In the film Jack's big brother is a pilot in the 99th Pursuit Squadron in training at Tuskegee

Many of these same families didn't have enough to eat before they came to Farm Security. Thirty-eight out of every 100 families receiving FSA loans didn't have a garden. Thirty-two didn't have a cow, 16 didn't have a chicken, and 43 didn't have a hog. With FSA loans they've bought cows, chickens, hogs, seed, and equipment, and are now doing their share in the biggest food production program of all time.

Educational Program Instituted

Farm Security borrowers have been "educated" for their part in the war effort. They've learned sound farming practices—modern methods of cultivating their crops for larger yields, protecting the soil, growing gardens, caring for livestock and poultry for more milk, meat and eggs. They've learned it through the friendly guidance of some 7,000 technically trained FSA supervisors who serve in every agricultural county in the country.

The farmer not only has learned more efficient farming operations, but his wife has become a more skillful homemaker. They both know how to keep records and budget their income. The health of the whole family is improved, through better diets and medical attention. The farmer and his wife have learned how to cooperate with other families and are taking an active part in community activities.

The small farm families working together have turned in thousands of tons of scrap iron and old rubber, and are conserving fats to ship with neighbors' to munitions factories.

In November 1942, C. B. Baldwin, Administrator, Farm Security Administration, in congratulating the 30,000 FSA families of both races in the three States of Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana, who received Merit Awards for having reached their Food for Freedom goals, said in a radio address:

"What you have done this year is only a beginning. Next year your efforts will be needed even more to maintain and further increase production. Our Armies are now moving forward toward the liberation of millions of people. . . . Every ounce of added food you produce puts us a step nearer to victory."

FSA Photo

(Top) Home Economics class canning peas with pressure cooker under supervision of Miss Evelyn M. Driver (in white uniform) at Flint River Farms, Georgia. Others in photo are Mesdames Ada Turner, Hattie Bowman, Louise Thomas, and Missouri Thomas, whose kitchen they are using. (Bottom) Digging potatoes out of a well kept garden at Flint River Farms, Ga., a Farm Security Administration project

Negro Farmer Important

The importance of the small Negro farmer in this nation-wide food production program is shown by figures on 1942 production possibilities among Negro FSA borowerrs in Alabama, who make up 38.4 percent of all FSA borrowers in that State.

There are about 10,000 Negro FSA families in Alabama. A summary of their production pledges for 1942 disclosed that the increases they expected to achieve as a result of FSA financial and supervisory assistance would average as follows: milk, 25 percent; eggs, 50 percent; chickens for meat, 100 percent; beef cattle, 25 percent; hogs, 25 percent; sweet potatoes, 100 percent; corn, 50 percent, and sorghum or cane syrup, 50 percent. These increases are being realized, according to latest reports.

Food production summaries for 1942 of six Negro FSA families (averaging 5.2 persons) near Yanceyville, N. C., showed the following:

(1) They harvested a total of 430 bushels of wheat in 1942 as compared with 242 in 1941, or an average of 71.6 bushels per family as against 40.3 bushels per family in 1941, an increase of 43.7 percent.

(2) A total of 3,054 quarts of fruits and vegetables has been canned by these six families as compared with their 1941 total of 1,997 quarts. They averaged 101 quarts per person as against 66 quarts in 1941, an increase of 34.6 percent.

(3) Each of these families planned to butcher three 250-pound hogs. They butchered an average of 2½ hogs each in 1941.

(4) Feed, livestock, and livestock products increased in 1942. This is revealed by the fact that two of the families are selling milk on the community milk route, after supplying farm and home needs.

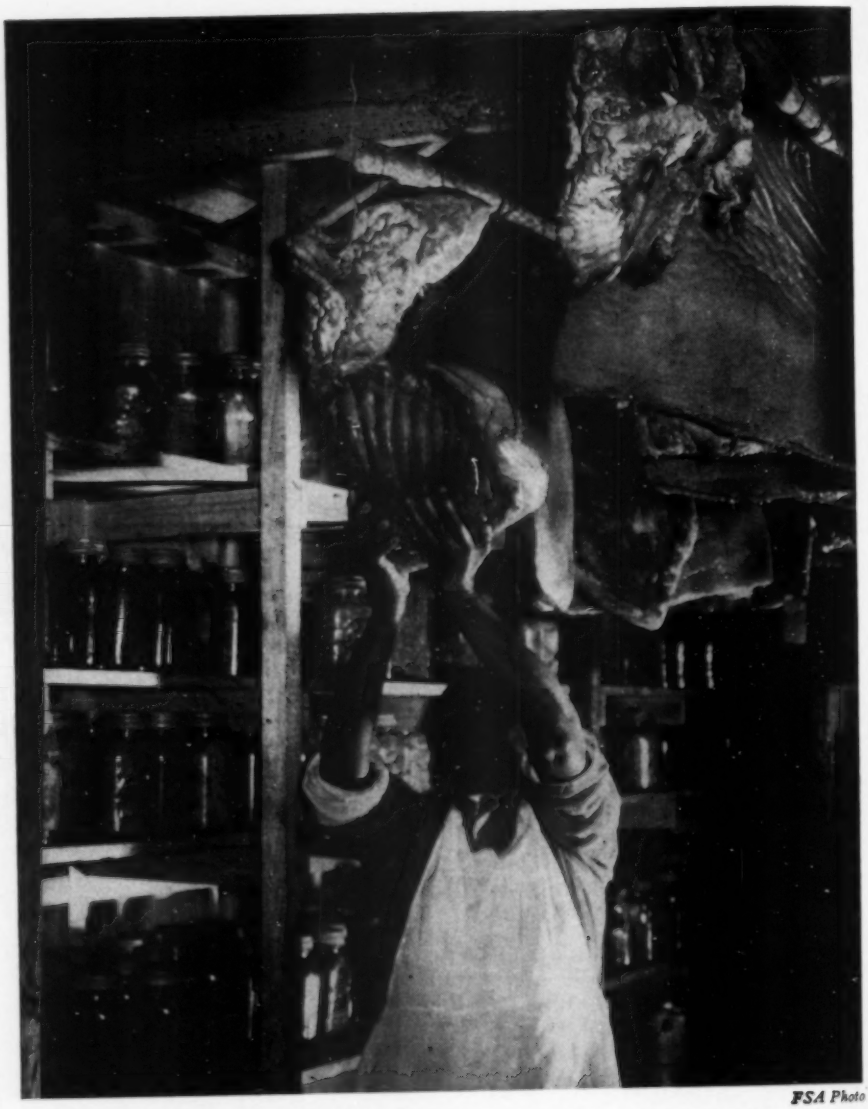
Let's look at the production record of 31 Negro FSA families, former sharecroppers and tenants, who operate the Haywood Farms near Brownville, Tennessee. When they took stock of their progress recently they discovered that their annual income had increased more than four times since they moved to this Government project five years ago. Their inventory, which could be regarded as a measure of their increased capacity to produce food and fibre for the Nation's war effort, showed their total income for the past year was $48,938, as compared with $10,831 their first year at Haywood Farms. They have increased their canning from 3,350 quarts to 13,417 quarts.

Richard Ragland, 49, typical farmsteader at Haywood Farms, was worth $382 when he moved to his new farm. Since that time his net worth, after deducting all debts, has increased to $1,664. When the family, consisting of Ragland, his wife and four children, came to the project, they had no hogs, no cows, no workstock and only a half dozen hens.

Today they have 5 hogs, 5 cows, 3 head of workstock and 45 hens. This family's total income the year before they moved to Haywood was $319. Last year their income was $1,617.

An estimated $153 will come from livestock, chickens, eggs, and pork. Previously they had no income from livestock or livestock products. The Raglands' canned goods this year amount to 340 quarts, as compared with only 114 quarts the year before they became Haywood residents.

This type of experimental family-type farm developed by FSA is to show how small farmers can improve their living conditions and make a better contribution to the war effort through improving their tenure, obtaining adequate operating credit, and technical advice and guidance in sound farm and home management practices.



FSA Photo

Mrs. Missouri Thomas in her smokehouse showing canned goods and cured meat, Flint River Farms, Georgia

Farmers Buy Bonds

In addition to producing Food for Freedom on their 2,200 acres, in 1942, Portage Farms, Inc., an FSA cooperative near Wardell, Missouri, consisting of 30 Negro and 16 white family units, purchased $5,400 worth of War Bonds, using funds in the retained (undistributed) dividend fund from the past two years of operations. Members of both races serve on the board of directors. In this way Portage Farms, Inc., like many other co-op associations throughout the country, serves as a double-barrelled weapon against the Axis.

Then there are the thousands of individual farmers scattered throughout the country whose output appears meagre standing alone, but when combined presents a formidable stockpile of food and fibre.

Farm Security has outlined the following program for small farmers for "all-out" Food for Freedom production.

1. Raise those crops that are most needed to win the war. This means a continued increase in dairy, poultry, and livestock products as well as peanuts, soybeans and other war-vital crops.

2. Keep the farm in production all year round.

3. Work with neighbors through farmer-controlled cooperatives. This includes sharing machinery because new farm machinery will be hard to replace for the duration. Co-op seed marketing, and sire services and other enterprises that can be used to mutual advantage economically, should be organized where possible.

4. Learn new and improved ways of farming.

5. Keep strong and healthy by having balanced diets with plenty of green vegetables. Farmers can join together in medical care associations to reduce the work-hours lost by illness and physical neglect.

Food is ammunition and every small farmer is in charge of a miniature munitions factory. Undoubtedly the Department of Agriculture had these small

(*Continued on page 29*)

Two Soldiers

By Chester B. Himes

A story of a black soldier and a white one who met and parted in a few, short minutes on a battlefield

A MOMENT before as the six of them, a sergeant and five first class privates, had crawled over the desert sand, a Nazi machine gunner had spotted them, and had cut loose. And the six of them, as one, had taken a running dive head-first into a shallow bomb crater and burrowed like gophers into the hot sand.

Now the gunner kept popping away, kicking sand over them, and locking them up for execution.

They were mad, just plain mad—and hating. They hated the Nazi tanks, specking the desert terrain for miles, darting about like vicious, fire-spitting bugs, grinding indifferently over their own dead soldiers as they fell. They hated the Stukas, piloted by mad-men; they hated the hidden gunners, the slave-driven infantry. They hated the arrogance of the Nazi officers, the vicious, underhandedness of the whole dirty axis war machine and everything it stood for.

But it was sight of the seventh soldier whom they discovered in the bomb crater when they raised their heads, spitting sand, and looked about, that caused Private Joshua Crabtree's eyes to get small and bitter mean. The seventh soldier was a very black American Negro, and Private Crabtree was from Elmira, Georgia. The sight of a Negro in a uniform similar to his was enough to make him go berserk.

Here, when he was just in a mind to do some really serious fighting, he finds himself in a bomb gully beside a nig—a colored boy. It was almost enough to make him take out his gun and shoot out the coon's brains. Ridges rolled down his jaws and his hand trembled on his gun.

The sergeant in command greeted the colored soldier pleasantly, "Hello there, soldier, how'd you find this hole?"

"Ah was chasin' a fly," the colored soldier grinned. "Kinda rough outside, ain't it?"

Private Crabtree turned to the colored soldier and asked gratingly, "Whuss yo' name, George?"

Flatly, the colored soldier replied, "George'll do."

The sergeant said, "If we had some tea we could talk better—"

"Ef'n Ah had a quart of gin—" George began.

". . . but since we ain't got any," the sergeant continued, slipping back into authority, "we got to get outa here."

It hit them, hard and heavy, cutting conversation and bringing back the battle. Tanks were now moving somewhere close, the flat, steady flack of automatic cannons topping motor roar; and overhead could be seen the Stukas, coming down one at a time in their crazy intricate dives with Spitfires on their tails and F.W. 190's trying to fight them off.

They had to get out of there; they had to go somewhere.

"If bullets were made of butter—" a soldier began facetiously, and caught a face full of sand from another burst of machine gun fire cutting away the lip of the crater.

"Well, it ain't like we could choose the Ritz instead," the sergeant pointed out. "That gunner is digging close."

White-faced and taut, the men looked at each other. They could make a break for it, all in opposite directions, and hope that some would get away. It wasn't so far back to where their lines had been, but judging from the closeness of the tanks it was highly probable that this flexible front had warped a mile since they had set out on their mission twenty minutes before. But the reality of desert warfare had taught them that a man going away was as big as a battleship, and even the Italians could hit soldiers in the back.

Or they could lie there and pray for rain, as the saying goes.

Private Crabtree tamped chewing tobacco into his jaw, spat in the sand. "Who'll jine me for the jubilee?" he asked. He got it off all right; not a quaver.

"We'll all go," the sergeant hung up the tentative suggestion, giving all choice of a hero's death.

"Naw, two can do it better," Private Crabtree vetoed. "If we get the jaybird, the rest of you make a break for the lines. And if we don't—well, put out the light and go to bed. Now who's the man?"

"Me!" five voices chimed in unison, but the colored soldier, George, halfway over the far edge, came suddenly to his feet, caught in the blinding glare, gun slanted at a rabbit hunter's angle. He pressed his elbows to his hips, hitched up his pants, said, "Well, ef'n it ain't Basin Street," and took off, running a zigzag course toward the slight elevation where the machine gun lay. Slugs picked up puffs about his feet.

Cursing a blue streak, Private Crabtree jumped erect in the crater and ran straight up over the edge like a mountain-climbing goat, his tall, angular, cotton-chopping frame looking like a scarecrow chasing birds. Out of the corners of his eyes he saw George churning up a grotesque pattern of sand, and he thought evilly, "Goldurned coon, thinks he's good as a white man in that uniform." But the main funnel of his vision was focused on the machine gunner whom he could see quitely plainly now.

For an instant the gunner ceased firing to level his sights on George. Private Crabtree dug in, plowing to a stop, caught a quick balance and drew a bead on the gunner's neck, just below the ear. Used to knocking squirrels out of pine trees with a twenty-two rifle, he hadn't missed anything as big as the head of a man he had shot at since he was twelve years old.

But he hesitated—let the smart-alecky coon get it first, he thought. So occupied was he with this private hatred in his soul, he forgot the winning of the war; and he did not even hear the shrill, peircing stab of the Stuka's whistle, doing a vertical dive on top of his head, until he saw George turn and begin firing at it, disregarding the machine gun blasting away at him.

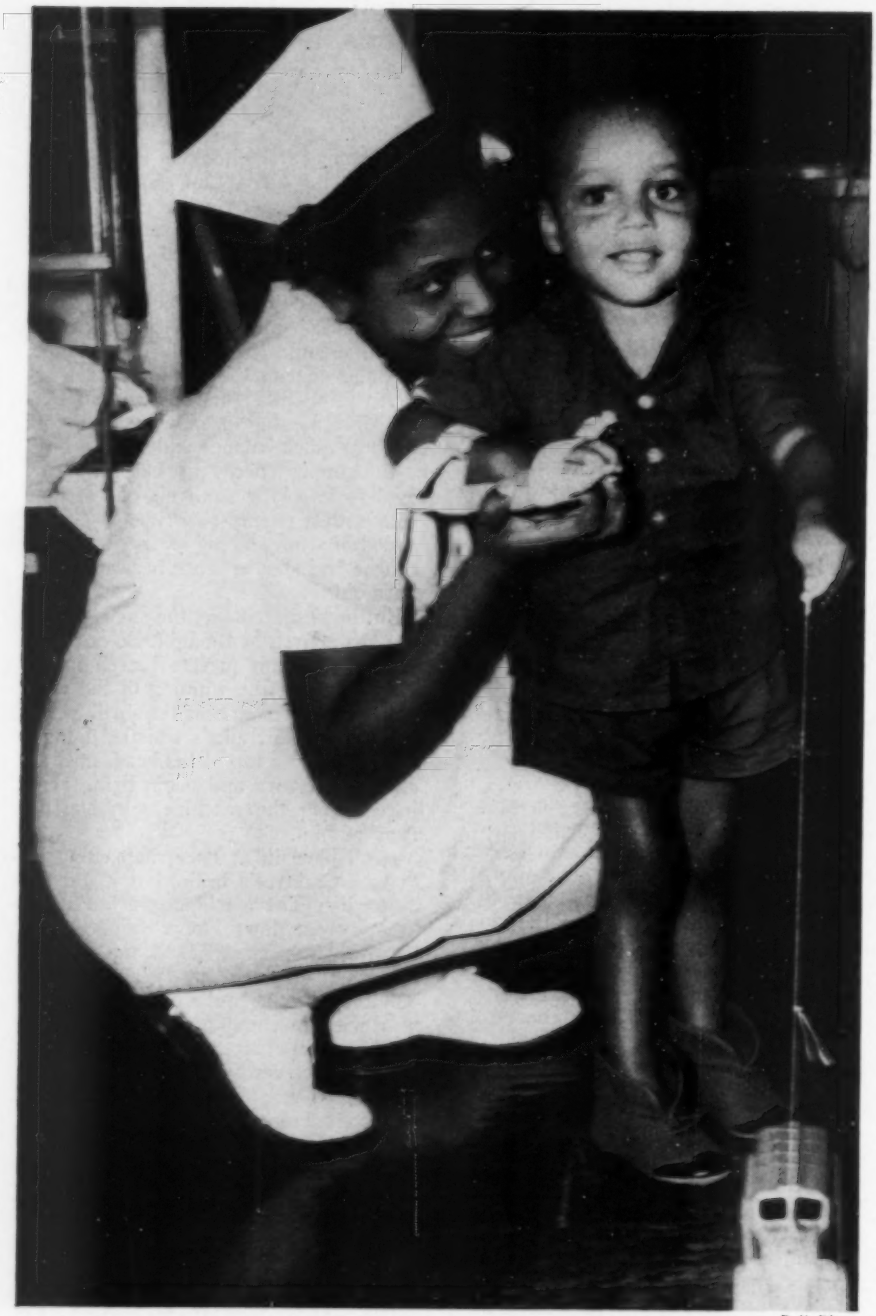
It all blew in at once, happening on Private Crabtree's brain, but it did not rationalize. The machine gun burst and George went down like a chopped tree. Private Crabtree knocked the top off the Nazi gunner's head; and at two hundred feet the Stuka dug a three-foot hole with machine gun slugs right in front of his face. Private Crabtree jumped backwards six feet, as if dodging the bullets; and the Stuka climbed and started down again.

That Nazi pilot must be blowing his top, Private Crabtree thought. If Adolph could see him now, wasting his ammunition and risking, not only the precious dive bomber, but himself, a precious dive pilot, as well, trying to get one lone soldier in a battle that ran for miles, he'd throw another epileptic fit. But as these thoughts cut their slightly amusing trajectory across the surface of his brain, he was already running toward George.

Reaching him, he swung his own rifle across his back and hoisted him in his arms. It seemed as if suddenly the whole war came to a head at that spot. Crazily, insanely, peppering the sand with machine gun slugs, the Stuka pilot let go a bomb like a drugged maniac, and riding so close on top of it, blew himself out of the sky.

Seeing the bomb coming, Private Crabtree had dived with George, hitting the sand and rolling over, feet up. The

(*Continued on page 29*)



Nurse and young paralysis victim at Tuskegee Center — *Polk Photo*

Aid the "March of Dimes"

NEGROES throughout the United States, along with all other American citizens, are being asked and urged at this time to make liberal contributions to the "March of Dimes" to the President to continue the fight against infantile paralysis. Negroes afflicted with infantile paralysis benefit from these contributed funds as do all other Americans so afflicted.

President Roosevelt has authorized, for the tenth consecutive year, the use of his birthday, January 30, 1943, for the raising of funds to continue the nation-wide fight against infantile paralysis. The Committee for the Celebration of the President's Birthday for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis is asking all to send contributions to the President on his birthday.

The fight against infantile paralysis is carried on throughout the year through the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and its 2,900 chapters. All funds contributed or raised during the President's birthday celebration are administered by the National Foundation and its chapters. Each chapter assists those afflicted with infantile paralysis, regardless of race, color, creed, or age.

What is not generally known is that Negroes are treated for infantile paralysis in all parts of the United States, where infantile paralysis hospitalization is to be had.

The Tuskegee Institute Infantile Center, which was opened in 1941, provides special facilities for the care of Negro sufferers from the after effects of infantile paralysis. This modern, well-equipped center was made possible by a grant of $171, 256 to Tuskegee Institute by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. This center consists of a modern three story, fire proof building, well equipped with the latest facilities for the care of crippled persons.

The personnel of the Infantile Paralysis Center includes an orthopedic surgeon, a registered physical therapist, a housekeeper, graduate nurses, attendants, orderlies, and maintenance engineer. The building and staff of the Center are especially planned to provide facilities for research and the training of doctors and nurses in the campaign against the single agent that causes almost one-fifth of all crippling.

The influence of this unit will extend far beyond the primary and specific function of rehabilitating Negro patients from the dreaded scourge of infantile paralysis. It should inevitably become a training center for physicians and nurses who are recognized as specialists in the various departments of medicine and surgery, and bring to the Negro racial group the best and latest in the constant advance of medical science.

Night

God got tired
Of watching men
Jealously go about
Their daily work
So he pulled down
A curtain of dusk.

—SIMEON BOOKER, JR.

Your minister would enjoy *The Crisis*. Why not present him with a year's subscription?

First Ladies of Colored America—No. 5

Cheyne's Studio, Hampton, Va.

MRS. JANIE PORTER BARRETT, recipient of the 1930 Harmon Award in Education, was first superintendent of the Virginia Industrial School for Colored Girls in Peake, Virginia, from 1915 until her retirement in 1940. She was founder and, for many years, headworker of the Locust Street Settlement of Hampton, Virginia, one of the first community centers for Negroes in America. Through her efforts the Virginia State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs was founded, and she has served as president and honorary president. A graduate of Hampton institute, Mrs. Barrett was for four years a teacher among sharecroppers at Dawson, Georgia, and at Hampton. She was a member of the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection called by President Hoover in 1930, served for years as a member of the executive board of the Richmond Urban League and holds membership on the Virginia Commission on Interracial Cooperation and on the Southern Commission on Interracial Cooperation

MRS. ZELIA N. BREAUX was born in Jefferson City, Missouri, where her father was first president of Lincoln university, then Lincoln Institute. She finished her education there in 1898, having taken private lessons on the piano and violin in the Brill School of Music, in Jefferson City. Until 1918 she was director of the musical department of Langston university. Then she went to Oklahoma City to become supervisor of music in the colored schools and to teach music in Douglass High School. She studied five summers under Emil Liebling in Chicago and received degrees of Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Music, from Northwestern university. During her stay in Oklahoma City, she has developed a fifty-six piece band, a twenty-six piece little symphony orchestra, a thirty-eight piece drum and bugle corps for girls and a chorus consisting of fifty voices

MRS. ORA KENNEDY GLASS, president, Kentucky State Association of Colored Women's Clubs, is a native of Henderson, Kentucky, and the wife of Dr. J. G. Glass. A graduate of Simmons university, Louisville, Kentucky, she was a teacher in her native city for several years. Under her leadership money was raised and turned over to the board of education to purchase the first separate building for the high school department in Henderson. A public library for the city was built up and a health program inaugurated through her efforts. Mrs. Glass is president of the Kentucky Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers, one of the vice-presidents of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, chairman of the local Red Cross board and president of the Douglass high school Parent Teachers Association for the past twenty-three years. She has also been chairman of the State Republican Party for eight years and is a member of the First Baptist Church in Henderson

MRS. LILLIE M. JACKSON, a native of Baltimore, Md., was a teacher in the schools there until her marriage, when she became engaged in the real estate business. Under her leadership, the Baltimore branch of the NAACP has grown from 100, to over 5,000 members and she organized the state conference of NAACP branches throughout Maryland. She has organized a group of neighborhood protective associations to fight to protect the residential community in Baltimore. The largest of these is the Northwest Residential Protective Association. As a member of the Sharp Street Memorial Methodist Church, she has served as the only woman elected to its board of trustees, and also as treasurer and chairman

Aryan Versus "Untouchable" in India

By Harry Paxton Howard

Ten years ago Gandhi launched his "fast unto death" against the plan to give India's "Untouchables" the right to elect their own representatives, with full equality with "Aryans", to Indian parliaments. But the "Untouchables" won. Mr. Howard, an outstanding authority on Asia, gives in this article (continued from last month) some background of this bitter conflict

NEGROES and ex-slaves were prominent in the Moslem invasions of India a few centuries ago, which brought religious and social upheaval in wide areas. Mahmud of Ghazni, first of the great Moslem conquerors, was himself the son of a slave. In subsequent centuries, such outstanding figures as Malik Andeel, a Negro ex-slave who became ruler of Bengal, and Malik Ambar, a Negro ex-slave who became ruler of Bombay. Ethiopian Negroes were ancestors of the nabobs (nawabs) of India.

Hindu and Moslem India

Both in religious theory and in practice, Moslem Negroes and other ex-slaves denied the whole basis of the Hindu caste system—the "eternal law of heredity" supported by Gandhi. Their social and racial origins brought them closer to the outcasts and the low-caste Hindus than to the "Aryans"—a factor of some importance in the increasing conversions of low-caste and outcasts to Islam. A decided majority of Indian agricultural and industrial wage-earners (the proletariat) are today Untouchables (Depressed Classes) and Moslems. The great majority of adherents to Hinduism, and the "backbone" of the Congress Party, are however of the three higher orders—the "twice-born" Aryans. But the division between Hindu and Moslem today is broadly territorial, as well as broadly occupational and social.

In the Punjab and Sind to the west, and in Bengal to the east, the Moslem descendants of low-caste or outcast Hindus much outnumber the believers in Hinduism. And in the Punjab, the fighting Sikhs have abandoned the core and center of "scientific" Hinduism—the caste hierarchy. The caste Hindus are today only a bare majority of the Indian people. And the more advanced and liberal of these are themselves now hostile to the caste system—despite the reactionary influence of the orthodox Brahmans and the "reforming" Gandhists.

But the division is widely unequal in different areas—a situation which is today a most important political factor, and has determined the actual functioning of representative government in India. Most of the peninsula is overwhelmingly caste Hindu, and this is the great center of the Congress Party and its influence; in all caste Hindu provinces, the Congress Party has successfully sabotaged the development of representative democratic government, and the British government has never had the courage and determination to form provincial governments from the Opposition parties. But in the great provinces to the northeast and northwest, Moslems and depressed classes and liberal Hindu and other elements have been able to form and maintain representative provincial governments during the past five years. This is the case in Bengal and Assam to the east, in Punjab and the Sind to the west. These are not "small" provinces. Bengal with its 55 millions (and its own beautiful language) is far greater than any European state of recent times excepting Germany and Russia; the Punjab with its 26 millions is more populous than any state on the American continent excepting the United States of America. And in these great areas, as in Assam and Sind, the one-time "untouchables" are already rising to political strength, intelligence, and experience, and drawing ever closer to their goal of Equal Treatment.

British and Other "Untouchables"

The new "Aryan" invasion of India, which gave the British domination over its vast territories, brought new opportunities to the "Untouchables." Christianity, however, has had far less influence than Islam. There are less than four million Indian Christians, and in no province do they constitute more than four per cent of the population; in most provinces they are less than one per cent. It was not so much Christian doctrine as it was the increasingly liberal and democratic thought of the advancing West which supplied the great leaven of change in India. Also, the military and political requirements of British rule—which, we must recognize, was not only rule but also Government—gave the "untouchables" opportunities of a quite unprecedented kind, such as have already been referred to.

Increasing numbers of caste Hindus, inspired by the democratic and rational thought of the West, have denounced Brahman orthodoxy and the whole system of caste and "untouchability;" one of the first schools for "untouchables" was established by Jyotirao Phooley almost a century ago. More recently, industrial development has helped the process, enabling many outcasts to find employment in the new factories away from their village ghettos. From the Army, and from the city and town, men sent money and brought ideas to their pariah families in the villages. With increasing knowledge, "untouchables" began to claim the "equal justice" which was the theoretical basis of English law and of the British courts in India. They were stirring, asserting themselves—with the warm sympathy and assistance of genuinely humane and demtocratic elements among British and Hindus, Christians and Moslems.

Against them they had the weight of orthodox Hinduism, and the unwillingness of the British to "stick their necks out" on behalf of these miserable outcasts. The natural sympathies of Britain's landed aristocrats and moneyed men were with their Indian counterparts—not with the wretched and degraded Indian proletariat, least of all with the pariahs. Liberal and democratic and anti-Jim-Crow forces in India, like liberal and democratic and cosmopolitan forces in England, and an uphill road against entrenched privilege and die-hard Conservatism among *both* "Aryan" groups. Not until October 1929 did the British government, temporarily in Labor hands, not only specifically reaffirm Dominion status as the goal of British policy, but announce a Round Table Conference representative of all groups and peoples of India—including the Depressed Classes' own representatives. And so, at this Conference, the world saw Ambedkar and Srimivasan unfolding their program for constitutional, democratic equality and freedom for India—a program primarily for the Depressed Classes (the former "untouchables"), but also a beaconlight for all the common people of India, crushed and impoverished by their Hindu landlords, money lenders, priests, and "sacred" beggars, and other exploiters—including some wealthy Moslems and privileged Britons.

Gandhi and Nationalism

During the present century, the Depressed Classes have become a political force to be reckoned with. This has been shown especially by the attempts of the Indian Congress Party, led by Gandhi, to gain the full support and co-operation of the Depressed Classes against the British. Gandhi has repeatedly denounced "untouchability," and promoted the "Mother India" temple which could be entered by "untouchables" just as by caste Hindus. On his journeys by train, Gandhi has received "untouchable" visitors—who returned, properly impressed, to their "untouchability" and ghettos. In many areas, the Congress Party has been instrumental in inducing its well-to-do Hindu supporters to meet growing demands for "Equal Treatment" by permitting or assisting the building of decent roads and wells and little temples for the Depressed Classes—this being much "simpler" than permitting them to use the Aryans' wells and temples and better roads. And Gandhi's avowed aim is to end their exclusion from the caste system, and draw them into Hindu hierarchy, where they can continue to "serve God by their physical labor."

Gandhi, indeed, was instrumental in bringing some humble and grateful Untouchables into the Congress Party. As a "nationalist" inspired by Western Nationalism, but who had himself been Jim Crowed in South Africa like any "coolie", the son of a Prime Minister had come keenly to feel the necessity of Indian unity. It was in South Africa that Gandhi emerged as lawyer and spokesman for the Indian community, and leader of his own united group of Hindus, Moslems, and Untouchables. This "unity," it must be clearly understood, did not extend to other oppressed peoples, black or white. As against the radical democracy of more advanced Indians, and the growing class-consciousness

of Indian labor, Gandhi's single-minded "Nationalism" won the day.

Thus, he and his followers cooperated with the British against the Boers. Again, Gandhi and his followers cooperated with the British in their bloody suppression of the "civil disobedience" launched by the Zulus against the new and oppressive taxes levied on them by their British masters. Gandhi himself describes the campaign against the Zulus as a bloody man-hunt, with whole villages of the "rebels" being wiped out and their population massacred. But Gandhi and his followers, hoping to gain something for their particular group by loyal service to their British masters and fellow-Aryans, voluntarily offered and gave their assistance to the latter. And when the great South African labor upheaval and general strike came in 1913, with white, black, and Hindu labor cooperating as never before against their white masters, Gandhi and his followers kept many Indian laborers at work, prevented losses to their capitalist employers, and finally reached a "separate agreement" which relieved the Indians from some special disabilities and broke the back of the strike. The Gandhi-Smuts Agreement saved the Smut oligarchy, brought most of the Indian strikers back to work (continuing to "serve God by their physical labor"), and renewed the old cleavage—with increased bitterness—between Hindu and other labor in South Africa.

In India, as in South Africa, "Nationalism" required unity among Indian groups. Tilak, the old leader of Hindu rebellion, was a frankly reactionary Brahman, despising the outcasts and hating the Moslems. Among the latter, the most violently anti-British group were a generation ago the orthodox Mohammedans, who supported the Turkish Caliphate and were prepared to fight a "Holy War" against the British on its behalf. These violently reactionary Hindu and Moslem groups reached agreement with more moderate elements in 1916—a new-found unity which was supplemented in time by the drawing in of some "untouchables"—already becoming a political factor which had to be reckoned with—into the Congress Party. The death of Tilak opened the way for Gandhi. The Nagpur session of the Indian "Congress," which reorganized as a "representative body for all India" and set out for "Self-Rule," included not only 4079 Hindus and 469 Moslems, but *two* Untouchables. The Congress now spoke proudly for "all India."

A family of low caste beggars parading the street in Bombay, shouting in a chorus for alms

"Equal Treatment"

Through association with the Congress Party, the Untouchables have made some gains. Through dealing carefully with other groups—British, Moslem, and Hindu,— and utilizing their opportunities and the friendship of genuine liberals and democrats of all parties and groups, they have also gained. And today greater and greater numbers of the Depressed Classes—the former Untouchables —are passing beyond the stage of humble gratitude for Aryan patronage, and demanding nothing less than "Equal Treatment." It is a development with which all educated Negroes are familiar in America, and it has already laid down programs which might serve as an inspiration and a goal everywhere.

The more advanced and intelligent no longer aspire merely to the removal of "untouchability," and assimilation into the caste system while continuing to serve their economic, military, and spiritual masters "by their physical labor"—the happy future set forth for them by "Mahatma" Gandhi (whom Ambedkar regards as a hypocrite). Their demand for "Equal Treatment" is real, and they are already uniting not only as separate "Depressed," but in trade unions and peasant unions and radical political parties with other Indian workers—regardless of hereditary origin or religious background. In the labor movement, some former Untouchables are rising to actual leadership of workers including Moslems and former caste Hindus. In intellectual and political life, such men as Ambedkar are world-famous—despite the slanders and attacks of "Aryan" Hindus and their spokesmen. And in the conflict between British and Hindus, Hindus and Moslems, Congress Party and British Government and anti-Congress groups, the Depressed Classes are seeking every opportunity to advance their position and their interests.

There is but one way in which this can be achieved: By a genuine, constitutional democracy, based upon universal suffrage and absolute equality of civil rights and liberties for all. The Depressed Classes of India are a minority, and do not aim at a dictatorship in any province anywhere. Already, parliamentary democracy has been made to work in some provinces of India by cooperation of the Depressed Classes' representatives with Moslems and liberal Hundu groups. Former untouchables have already served as Ministers in provincial Cabinets, have taken and are increasingly taking an active and intelligent part in Indian political life. And the appointment of B. R. Ambedkar as Minister of Labor in the Viceroy's Cabinet is a harbinger of the future.

They do not expect the British to give them emancipation. The Churchill Government, and its representative Cripps, were prepared to ignore their rights altogether, and tried to make a deal with the Congress Party which

(*Continued on page* 30)

Negro Army Wives

By Thelma Thurston Gorham

THE WACCS and the WAVES will not produce all the heroines of World War II. Quite a number of them (unsung and unheralded) are being produced by the WIVES—particularly the wives who are trying to help maintain the morale of their soldier-husbands by accompanying them wherever they are sent this side of "over there."

They cannot follow their husbands "across," but they can follow, or precede, them to isolated posts like Ft. Huachuca, Arizona and to posts in the deep and "chivalrous" Southland where they must adjust themselves to the other side of the American way of life.

It takes fortitude and plenty of it to be an Army wife. Especially at a place like Ft. Huachuca. You see, when it was decided to isolate Negro troops from the rest of civilization by walling them up, high and dry, out there above the Arizona desert, WIVES and such things were not taken into consideration. Especially wives of enlisted men.

An Army wife whose husband was recently retired recalls laughingly that when she joined her soldier out there 25 years ago she lived in a tent and had to buy water for drinking and bathing at a dollar per barrel. Twenty-five years ago, Ft. Huachuca was not the modernized, thriving and populous wartime community that it now is. Nevertheless, today, living conditions out there leave much to be desired by women who are self-sacrificing enough to want to share the fortunes of their soldier husbands. Many of them would welcome even tents to what they're getting.

A typical example of what was provided by way of housing for enlisted men and their wives during the past summer at Ft. Huachuca is the structure known variously as "the Castle on the Hill," "Bonnie Blink Plaza," and "Bonnie Blink Palace."

Huachuca Living Quarters

It is an unpainted plywood shack that rivals the best that some slum dwellings have to offer: Eleven rooms about seven feet square, each furnished with two G. I. (government issue) cots and bedding.

The twenty-two persons (eleven soldiers and their wives) who occupied the place all used the same sanitary facilities: one shower (with hot and cold water), one stool and two enameled iron sinks that served as face basins, laundry tubs, and in lieu of bathtubs. There were no facilities for cooking. The "Castle" was

The Army has asked them to stay home, the railroads have begged them not to travel, and the towns near Army camps have no accommodations for them, but Army wives, colored and white, insist on following their husbands. Here is a story of their life at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, valuable chiefly because it shows the difference in treatment accorded white and Negro civilian workers

provided at a rental fee of $12 a month after a delegation of non-coms called on the post utilities officer and asked for something better for their wives than the "Girls' Dormitory."

The "Dormitory" is an unconverted barrack of the old Twenty-fifth Infantry in which unmarried girls and married women (all of whom have jobs on the post) have been given quarters. Lockers have been added for storage of personal belongings of those who live there. Otherwise, with G. I. cots lining the walls and no partitions in between, the "Dormitory" inmates have about the same degree of privacy and comfort as their soldier-husbands and sweethearts in the other barracks.

However, for large numbers of white women who work on the post (and whose husbands are not enlisted men in the U. S. Army) excellent quarters are provided. Rooms are spacious, but afford privacy. Sanitary and laundering facilities are adequate, and bathtubs supplement showers. There are cozily-furnished rooms in which to entertain visitors; and there is a kitchen where they can prepare their own meals or have them prepared.

As one old-timer on the post observed, "Nowadays, it's the civilians—and the white ones at that—who get consideration out here!"

White Army wives have few complaints to make at Ft. Huachuca—unless it's about the isolation of the post. Nor do wives of white civilian workers (who get choice quarters) have anything to gripe about. It's the Negro Army wife and her civilian sister who haven't been counted into the scheme of things out there. And if she cares enough about her soldier to want to "rough it" with him at Ft. Huachuca, she must have fortitude and plenty of it.

Camp Is Isolated

A desert fortress, walled-in by mountains, Ft. Huachuca is a man's town. Yet in spite of the talk that one hears about the importance of soldier morale, there is still much that could be done for the morale (and morals) of the enlisted lads in khaki out there.

They have a splendid fort: a small town in itself (the third largest in Arizona, according to population) with every modern facility and convenience for complete living—except women.

There are eight chapels and four large motion picture theaters on the post. Every regiment has its own PX (post exchange), conveniently located barber shops, bowling alleys and recreation halls. Additionally, there are: a large amphitheater, a dance hall, a non-commissioned officer's club, and the Service Club with a tiny library and a large cafeteria where soldiers hungry for home-cooked food may supplement government rations with meals that are cafeteria-styled and wartime priced. Dances, concerts and variety programs are frequent. The Post Cafe (a post-old institution run by Mar Kim, a prosperous Chinese) has been declared "off limits" for enlistees in favor of commissioned officers and civilians, but has been replaced by another Post Cafe near the Knoxville quarters section.

For the happiness of Ft. Huachuca's approximately 14,000 enlistees there is everything except feminine companionship. The women out there number about 300, excluding the WAACS. They include nurses, hospital technicians, civilian employees and wives of officers, enlisted men and civilian workers—Negro, white, Mexican, Indian and Filipino.

When a troop of tramping doughboys see anything in skirts out there, they have difficulty keeping step to the platoon leader's "Hup, hup, hup, hup!". Instead of "eyes front," it's eyes right, left and backwards. But—two-thirds of the women on the post are married and most of the single ones are engaged. Therefore, as one private remarked, "It's tough!"

Entertainment Limited

However, for the adventurous and amorous soldier, there is always the notorious "Hook," and the equally as infamous unincorporated town of Fry, Arizona. The "Hook" and Fry are located just outside the eastern entrance to Ft. Huachuca. The only places that justify the area outside "the Gate" are a theater and an attractive and capably-

staffed type "A" USO building.

The "Hook" is what its name implies —a place where suckers are "hooked" in more ways than one. There are whiskey and gambling, of course—and women.

Neither Fry nor the "Hook" have hot and cold running water in their adobe huts, corrugated metal shanties, tents, and packing-box shacks. The women who live there have limited sanitary facilities, notwithstanding the fact that on paydays men flock to the area by hundreds. Scores of soldiers "await their turns" for hours and many "double back" to stand in line again.

Always after these first-of-the-month forays on the "Hook," the G.U. wards on the post (where venereal cases are treated) are filled to capacity. Some far-sighted fellows go to Nogales and Aqua Prieta, Mexican border towns, where some of the "ranchitos" have their own prophylactic stations and dangers of landing in the G.U. wards are not so acute. Trips to Douglas, Bisbee and Tucson also help to break the monotony of the Ft. Huachuca soldier's state of womanlessness.

Nevertheless, the woman problem out here is acute from no matter what angle you view it. You see, Ft. Huachuca was built for soldiers. It's a man's town and until nurses for the 93rd Division Station Hospital and the WAACS started arriving not too much thought was given to the comforts of women on the post.

The WIVES out there have always had to "soldier"—almost as hard as their husbands.

Last summer, the summer after Pearl Harbor, found them at Ft. Huachuca in large numbers—wives of Negro enlisted men who were being trained daily to sacrifice themselves for the cause of the four freedoms and "the American way of life."

Cross-section of America

They were high school girls, college graduates, school teachers, careerists, housewives, and young girls who should still have been under their parents' supervision. Youngsters and oldsters alike, all were learning and living life "the hard way" in order to be near their soldier-husbands.

They had gone out to Ft. Huachuca to spend a week or two weeks, and were staying "indefinitely," which meant that they'd be there until their lads in khaki were sent to another camp on a cadre or "over there."

They were more concerned about the morale of their menfolk than about their own personal comforts or the luxuries of civilian life. They realized that they could not have all the conveniences in an Army camp that they had had at home. They wern't crying about the lives they had left behind them. They knew they weren't the only women in the world whose well-balanced lives had been upset, nor the only women who would give their chance of heaven for a normal home-life again. They were self-sacrificing enough to take almost anything in their stride—and try to learn to like it!

Out at Ft. Huachuca they tried to adjust themselves to living quarters that were shunned (thank goodness!) by desert rats, lizards, centipedes and tarantulas. They learned to stifle a scream at the sight of a spider on their pillows. (Regular "Miss Muffets" these Army wives!) And they slaughtered enough ants in their beds to qualify for the title of "Annie the Ant-Killer."

Women Often Work

They worked: In order to qualify for quarters as civilian employees on the post. They closed their eyes and ears to the fact that white civilian workers were furnished far more liveable lodgings.

They worked: In the Station Hospital offices as typists and clerks. In the Station Hospital nurses' quarters as maids. In the stucco and stone house on the "officers' line" as maids-of-all-work. In the post exchanges where some soldiers are respectful and some are not. In the laundry, where they have "graveyard" shifts, and in the warehouses. In the Service Club as cooks' helpers, fountain attendants, and what-have-you.

They did not receive transportation to and from work like the white clerical workers who live in the cozy dormitories.

They earned: As typists and clerks, $120 a month. As maids in the hospital, $90 a month. As maids in white officers' homes, whatever their employers felt like paying in addition to room and board. As post exchange employees, $50 a month. As laundry and warehouse workers, $50 to $60 a month. As Service Club employees, $35 a month plus board and lodging.

They had to rely on typical "country store" shopping facilities of the post exchanges where ceiling prices try to reach the peaks of the mountains that surround the post. Or they paid equally as exorbitant prices for merchandise at the wide space in the highway nearby, known as Fry, Arizona. Otherwise, they went 45 miles to Bisbee, 65 miles to Douglas, 60 miles to Nogales or 105 miles to Tucson to shop.

They paid $2.00 for a "shampoo, press and curl" at the beauty shop provided for them on the post (with a Negro operator under white supervision).

They did their weekly wash in 14-inch galvanized pails, purchased from the post exchange grocery store. They did their ironing on sheets spread across Army cots. They became adept at inventing makeshifts.

Yet, they managed always to be attractive, fresh and uncomplaining when they greeted their soldiers after retreat. They had learned that training for a combat unit is a hard life at its best and that a man can't "soldier" well if he has to carry an extra burden of worry.

The WAACS who have been assigned to Ft. Huachuca will find the going made immeasurably easier for them because of these women—the WIVES who have preceded them.

The WAACS have their work pretty well cut out for them and provisions have been made for their comfort. But the WIVES, and this goes for many posts besides Ft. Huachuca, have had to clear away the underbrush alone, blaze their own trails and learn to "soldier" the hard way, along with their menfolk.

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CAMDEN, N. J. PANCAS

First Row—left to right: Mrs. William A. Jones, Mrs. Juanita Mitchell, Miss Lillian A. Goings, Mrs. Edna Miller, Mrs. Ora Taylor, Mrs. Helen Grove, Mrs. Martha Harvey, Mrs. Alice T. Wiggins, Miss Carolyn E. Waples, Mrs. Octavia Coy; second row: Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, Mrs. Margaret Banks, Mrs. Willa Chambels, Mrs. Ruth Strebber, Mrs. Bertha Boyd, Mrs. Ruth Richardson, Mrs. Alice Dorsey, Mrs. William Burton, Mrs. Viola Adams, Mrs. L. E. Holland, Mrs. Helen Galloway, Mrs. Eva Johnson; third row: Albert E. Flournoy, John Robins, W. A. Jones, Silas Smith, Herbert Nix, Dr. Theodore T. Grove, Gilbert Williams, J. King Thomas, Dr. J. M. Vaughan, campaign chairman; Harry Queensbury, Dr. Ulysses S. Wiggins, branch president; Embre Turberville, Mrs. Katherine Johnson, Mrs. Jessie Hannah, William Burton, Miss Bertha Waples, George P. Miller, Mrs. Marvel Dansbury, Manzy Taylor, Mrs. Elizabeth Blake, Mrs. Elizabeth Bond.

Other PANCAS not in the picture are: Miss Beatrice Morris, highest individual producer, Mrs. Kenny Greene, Mrs. Edna Blakely, Mrs. Josephine Primas, Mrs. Josephine Mays, Mrs. Sylvanus Harvey, Mrs. Charles Mims, Mrs. Bertha Vaughan, Mrs. Nancy Barnes, LeRoy Townsend, Mrs. Alma Jackson, Mrs. Mae T. Mack, S. Edward Davis, Mrs. Emma B. Bagby, Mrs. Eleanor Belford, Mrs. Madge Lee, Gilbert Johnson, Mrs. D. Carter, Mrs. H. H. Sadler, Miss Harriet Sturgis, MissCatherine Tyler, Mrs. Georgie Greene, Mrs. Juanita Dicks

Camden, N. J. Gets 1,200 Members

Twelve hundred members were enrolled in the membership campaign of the Camden N. J. Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at the closing meeting Tuesday night at the Hunton Branch Y.M.C.A.

The campaign goal of one thousand members was exceeded by two hundred as captains and workers vied with each other to reach the division totals. Division reports were as follows: "A"—Mrs. Wilda Smith, Captain, 90 members; "B"—Dr. U. S. Wiggins, Captain, 185 members; "C"—Mrs. Ruth Richardson, Captain, 64 members; "D"—Mrs. Juanita Dicks and Dr. Theodore Grove, Captains, 310 members; "E"—Mrs. George Dorsey and Herbert Nix, Captains, 163 members; "F"—Mrs. Alma Jackson and J. Arthur Jones, Captains, 21 members; "G"—Miss Bertha Waples, Captain, 196 members; "H"—Mrs. Marvel Dansbury, Captain, 40 members; "I"—Mrs. Elizabeth Bond, captain, 29 members; "J"—Mrs. W. A. Jones and Mrs. Mary Smith, Captains, 92 members; Special Gifts, 10 members.

Trophies were awarded as follows: highest division, Miss Bertha Waples, Captain; second highest division, Mrs. Juanita Dicks and Dr. Theodore Grove, leaders; highest individual producer, Miss Beatrice Morris; second highest individual producer, Harry Queensbury.

Because of the number of pledges of memberships, the workers decided to have a "mop-up" meeting on Friday, December 4, at the Hunton Branch YMCA, when it is predicted that many more persons will be enrolled as members.

Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, national field secretary, who was in the city ten days to direct the campaign left immediately for Providence, R. I., to conduct a similar effort.

Dr. J. Maurice Vaughan, chairman of the campaign and Dr. U. S. Wiggins, president of the local branch, were enthusiastic in their appreciation to the workers in establishing the largest organization of the NAACP in South Jersey.

Probe Demanded in Soldier Death: Declaring that a state bordering on treason and anarchy exists if reports are true that Louisiana police are determined to flout the authority of the United States Army, the association has asked that Secretary of War Stimson take drastic action in the case of the cold-blooded murder of one Negro military policeman and the beating of another on November 1, by state police in Alexandria, Louisiana.

"We are informed," said the association, "that the slayer was suspended for only one day and has been restored to full authority. We are further informed that state police have told army authorities in effect that they do not intend to recognize authority of the army."

The association's telegram also stated, "It is imperative that the War Department take a definite unequivocal position with respect to this and other attacks by white police and civilians on Negro soldiers in the South. Unless this is done there will be inevitable repetition and

multiplication of attack. We demand that there be no further temporizing with the increasingly vicious situation."

WAAC Segregation Lessened: Segregation in the WAAC mess hall at Fort Des Moines, has been officially abolished and 10 Negro Auxiliaries are now integrated into the Officer Candidate School, due to two conferences held in Washington, November 4 and 19, between Col. Noel Macy, Lt. Helen Wood, Lt. Helen West, Judge William Hastie, of the War Department, and Walter White.

Previously there had existed a policy of segregated service clubs with club number 1 designated for white WAACs and club number 2 for Negro WAACs. The white club had been declared out of bounds for Negro WAACs. Both clubs are now accessible to Negro and white WAACs alike.

Poll Tax Fight Renewed: Declaring that the association is "not in the least deterred" by the temporary setback experienced in the passage of the anti-poll tax legislation which occurred when the bill was killed on November 23, Walter White announced November 27, in a statement to the press, that the NAACP is working in cooperation with other agencies to renew the poll tax fight on the very first day of the 78th Congress, January 4, 1943.

Since the beginning of the fight the association's Washington bureau has been in the forefront for the passage of the Pepper-Geyer anti-poll tax bill, which would have outlawed, in eight southern states, the requirement of the payment of a poll tax as a prerequisite for voting.

Ban on Negro Trainees Fought: Reports that all vocational training classes for Negroes in Alabama have been ordered closed by State Director of Vocational Education Plowden, brought protests from the Birmingham branch, November 17, and from the national office, November 23. George M. Johnson of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, upon receipt of information on the move to ban Negroes stated that immediate action would be taken to correct it.

Probe of Lay-Off Urged: Urging the investigation of a lay-off in Savannah, Georgia, of 800 laborers, 500 of whom are Negroes, the Savannah NAACP branch wired the War Manpower Commission, November 30, as follows:

"Strongly protest lay-off of 800 laborers at Southeastern Shipyards for failure to sign agreement which smacks of collusion between company and union which would deprive workers of rights."

The Savannah branch's committee on labor and industry stated that these unfair labor practices can be traced to the union bosses, who, having a closed shop agreement with Southeastern Shipyard, are using all methods of intimidation in an effort to frustrate plans of a rival labor union for memberships among workers.

Jefferson City, Mo., branch, left to right, Charles A. E. Robinson, chairman labor and industry committee, Mrs. Rowena Muckelroy Savage, famed concert soprano, and secretary of both the Jefferson City branch and the Missouri State Association and Roy Jamieson, whom the committee placed in the Tweedie Shoe Factory

Insulting Brand Name Withdrawn: The sale of a pipe tobacco obnoxiously labeled "Nigger Hair" was discontinued December 4, following formal protest by the NAACP to George Washington Hill, Jr., vice-president of the American Tobacco company, makers of Lucky Strike cigarettes. The company distributed the tobacco in a number of Northwestern states in sections that are sparsely populated by Negroes.

Picketed Movie Withdrawn: Three hours after the NAACP had thrown a picket line around the 55th Street Playhouse in New York City on December 2, the infamous motion picture "Birth of a Nation", which was being shown at the theatre was withdrawn from the screen and posters advertising "Abraham Lincoln" as the theatre's next attraction went up.

Lowell Mellett, chief of the bureau of motion pictures of the Office of War Information, in response to continued protests against the exhibition of the silent version of the picture, stated in a letter to the association, dated December 7: "We are assured that the War Activities Committee will take up the matter with any theatre already showing or contemplating the showing of this picture, and there is reason to believe that representations by the committee will be sufficient in most cases to prevent showings."

N. Y. Fire Department Jim Crow: Urging that Mayor LaGuardia issue an order comparable to the President's Executive Order 8802, the NAACP, on December 11, brought to the attention of the Mayor the following instances of discrimination in the fire department of the City of New York:

The existence of a list of Negro members in the fire department while no other racial groups are so listed.

The establishment of a jim crow medical, surgical and dental plan.

The failure of the department to make Negroes acting officers on the basis of seniority, and the exclusion of Negroes from fireboat and rescue companies, band and baseball teams.

Mrs. Roosevelt Says AEF Friction Reduced: In a conference at the White House on December 1, to discuss the recent reports of the treatment of Negro soldiers abroad, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt expressed to Walter White her conviction that Brigadier-General B. O. Davis had done well in his efforts toward lessening the tension between Negro and white soldiers in the American Expeditionary Forces stationed in the British Isles. Mrs. Roosevelt said that friction created by prejudiced southern whites had been somewhat eased.

Mr. White stated that while the NAACP did not disagree with Mrs. Roosevelt concerning the value of Gen. Davis' investigation, there could however be no slackening on the part of the association in protest against the establishment of southern jim-crowism abroad. The attacks made and propaganda spread by white officers in England, Australia and other parts of the world to which Negroes have been sent, must be regarded as one of the gravest of all problems, which the NAACP will continue to fight.

Demands Full Manpower Use: Declaring that "the Negro views the imminence of compulsory service with real alarm because it threatens to freeze him at his present employment level, which is substantially below his ability," Leslie Perry, administrative assistant in the Washington bureau of the NAACP, submitted, December 3, a statement to the Pepper sub-committee on S. R. 291, providing for full investigation of the manpower resources of the nation and their most advantageous use in the war effort.

The association expressed "deep and vital" concern with the implications involved compulsory service legislation before there has been a maximum utilization of existing manpower and suggested certain patterns and areas of discrimination based upon race and color which it urged the committee to explore to their logical conclusion with the view to providing remedial measures.

The statement called attention to the relegating and restricting of Negroes to subordinate jobs from which they were not upgraded even when they were qualified.

The association statement further charged that industry has so far failed to give even token employment to Negro women at a time when white women have been widely integrated into the training and employment picture.

Branch News

Connecticut: Election of officers and a membership meeting were held by the Stamford branch, November 29.

Indiana: At the close of its war bond drive the Evansville branch held a parade and rally, December 7. Among the rally speakers were Mayor William H. Dress and Manson Reichert, mayor-elect. The principal talk was made by Dr. C. E. Rochelle.

Iowa: At the annual meeting and dinner of the Des Moines branch, Ike Smalls was elected president and Mrs. William Neal, vice president. It was announced that the membership total of 682 is the largest in the history of the branch.

Kansas: Under the sponsorship of Rev. William H. Williamson, president of the Leavenworth branch, the speaker at the annual membership campaign meeting, November 15, was C. A. Franklin, editor of the Kansas City Call. Mr. Franklin spoke on "The Four Freedoms and the Negro."

Mrs. Emma Davidson was voted "Mrs. N. A. A. C. P." in the popularity contest held by the Wilmington, Del. branch during its recent membership campaign

Through protest from the Leavenworth branch, the editorial policy of the daily Leavenworth Times, was changed to spell "Negro" with a capital "N."

Massachusetts: A donation of $55 was made to the West End Service Men's Club by the New Bedford branch, November 27. Dr. J. Tunstall Parham was re-elected branch president.

Michigan: At its November 22 meeting, the Detroit branch announced that it will sue all Detroit war plants that refuse to hire Negroes. The basis of such suits will be a charge of misuse of Federal funds granted in war contracts. Chester K. Gillespie, member of the Ohio state legislature, spoke on the subject, "Discrimination in War Plant Hiring."

The Kalamazoo branch discussed the integration of Negroes into local defense, the training of colored people for work in industry and organized labor's attitude toward the employment of Negroes, at a meeting held November 23. Mrs. Harold E. Bledsoe, state worker for the U. S. employment service, spoke on conditions affecting Negro workers throughout Michigan.

New Jersey: At the November 30 meeting of the Bridgeton branch Mrs. Omega Mason, state president of the Colored Women's Federated Clubs, was the guest speaker.

The Camden branch exceeded its goal of 1000 members by 200, at the close of its membership campaign, November 25. A follow-up meeting was held December 4, at which time new members were enrolled.

Dr. James T. Davis, for many years president of the Elizabeth branch, died, Saturday, November 23 at his home. At the time of his death, Dr. Davis was serving as a member of the board of directors of Elizabeth branch.

New York: The Columbia County branch, Hudson, held a "Night in Hollywood" banquet on December 10. The branch plans to make the banquet an annual affair.

On November 22, the Elmira branch held a meeting at which officers were elected and the newly granted national charter was read.

At an open forum, November 27, the

(*Continued on page* 28)

Lawson Photo

Trophy winners in Camden NAACP campaign. Left to right: Dr. Theodore T. Grove, co-captain of second highest division; Miss Bertha Waples, captain, highest division; Miss Juanita Dicks, co-captain, second highest division, representing in this picture Miss Beatrice Morris, highest individual producer; Harry Queensbury, second highest individual producer

All Seamen Are the Same

By Constance H. Curtis

THE sailor, marine and soldier, all fighters in the service of the United States government, gain prestige and privilege by wearing the uniform of our forces. When on furlough they find boundless facilities for their entertainment offered free of charge in cities and towns throughout the entire country. Whether in New York or Springfield, Atlanta or Medicine Hat, the doors of the USO and the numerous canteens and similar organizations are open to them. They are welcomed into private homes and shown the town by debutants.

Certainly there is none who will quarrel with the splendid things which are being done to make these men happy. Each of them faces possible death for the sake of his country and all of us are willing to do everything within our power to show them our appreciation of the sacrifices they are making daily.

There are however, men who daily risk their lives in the Axis-infested seas who, when they return to shore have no entree into the places set up for the entertainment of our fighting men. These are the merchant seamen, many of whom are Negroes. Their's is the all-important task of transporting to our forces the world over the products of America's assembly lines. On their shoulders rests the responsibility of getting food and weapons to our men in Libya, the Solomons, Africa and a dozen other places.

The merchant seaman wears no insignia to indicate the work he does and when he returned to port no steps were taken to see that he had rest and relaxation. Though he too is under fire in all of the fighting zones of the world, has been torpedoed and dive-bombed, thrown into seas flaming with burning oil, and run all of the risks of our other fighting men, when he returned home no one thought to see that he was cared for. He was the forgotten man of the war.

Realizing the urgent need for an organization which had the interest of the merchant seamen as its objective, a group of men gathered in the early spring of this year and began to lay plans. It was felt that some provision should be made to show the merchant seamen that the job they were doing so wonderfully was appreciated. With a directorate composed of such men as Henry J. Kaiser, top-ranking shipbuilder, as national president; Admiral Emory S. Land, of the United States Navy, chairman of the board; Joseph Curran, of the National Maritime Union and Harry Lundeberg, of the National Seafarers Union as two of the vice-presidents, the United Seamen's Service embarked on its program.

Photo courtesy United Seaman's Service

Ceremony at opening of Bay Ridge Home for Seamen by USS, Baltimore, Maryland, left to right: Andrew Freeman, public relations; Douglas Falcomer, national executive director of USS, George White, Dr. Daniel Blaine, medical director

First Club Opens

The group received donations from the seamen's unions, the shipbuilders, friends of the merchant seamen and from the seamen themselves. By September 11, 1942, the first club for merchant seamen opened its doors. This is the Andrew Furuseth Club, named for a labor leader who fought for the rights of the men who manned the ships. Located at 30 East 37 Street in New York City, this club was the first to offer, for merchant seamen, facilities similar to those to be had by uniformed men in their clubs and canteens.

Here the men have a club which supplies the things they want: a library stocked with magazines, newspapers, fiction, technical and maritime books, lounge rooms and game rooms, desks and paper for letter writing as well as a room for entertainment in the basement where the men can sit at attractive tables or stand at a bar and drink their soft-drinks or beer. In this room many of the dances are held, with picked girls who have volunteered to come in and dance and talk with the men. If a man wishes to hear a lecture he has an opportunity to do so in his club, he has access to advice and aid from trained social workers and the services of a physician. The club is organized for him, to fit his needs.

On the committees built up to take care of the entertainment of the men, there are such well known people as Madeline Carroll, Edward Arnold, Lawrence Tibbett and Helen Hayes. Kate Smith and Boake Carter have pledged time on their programs for the benefit of the organization as have the Columbia, National and Mutual Broadcasting systems.

The USS intends to establish these centers not only in the United States but in foreign ports as well. Services such as those given the merchant sailors here at home will also be available to them when they are at the other side of the world.

In addition to the clubs that are being built for the sailors there are rest homes too, where men who have been injured or shell-shocked may go and receive expert care. In these homes they find comfortable quarters in which to rest,

rolling countryside to walk in and wholesome food to help them gain their strength again. One such rest home has been opened on the New Jersey estate of Mrs. C. S. Cutting, another is located in Oyster Bay, one on the Chesapeake. Soon there will be such homes near all seaport towns for the exclusive use of the merchant seamen.

No Discrimination

The United Seamen's Service is outstanding in that the set-up makes no provision for discrimination because of race or creed. Rest homes are planned in many of the southern seaboard communities where merchant seamen will live together without special provisions being made for Negroes. Officers of the organization believe that if men can live within the close confines of a ship without friction the same procedure can be followed on land. Most likely, in some of the southern states where existing legislation outlaws the mixture of Negroes with other races in the same residence, the organization will encounter difficulty in setting up homes. Realizing this fact, they still intend to follow out their plan of complete lack of discrimination in every way possible. Already, in Maryland, a rest home has been established and no interference has been encountered.

With the existence of separate USO centers within the army camps and separate canteens for white and Negro soldiers, the action of the United Seamen's Service presents a lesson in practical democracy that may well be copied by many other groups, including the United States Navy, Army and Marine Corps.

Unlike other organizations which have experienced a mushroom growth since the attack on Pearl Harbor, the USS is built for the years that are to follow the war as well as for the present. It will be a permanent clearing house, functioning for the purpose of aiding seamen, caring for them when they are ill and entertaining them when they are well. It is the only organization of this type which intends to remain as a permanent part of the post-war period.

The United Seamen's Service will answer a long-felt need for an organization for merchant seamen. In all of its aspects it bids fair to be one which will

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The following directory of some of the many colored lawyers in this country is carried in response to numerous inquiries from readers desiring to contact attorneys outside their home towns. THE CRISIS maintains no legal bureau, and the N.A.A.C.P. handles only cases involving color discrimination, segregation or denial of citizenship rights.

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Telephone: Lafayette 0137

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Michigan at Monroe Avenue, Grand Rapids
Telephone: 8-9042

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Telephone: 4-7484

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Telephone: MA-1320

Chester K. Gillespie
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Telephone: Cherry 1835

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serve well and long. Shining clearly, through and around the group, is its policy of non-discrimination. For the service of the merchant mariner, poor or with money, injured or well, black or white—to the USS, all seamen are the same!

Branch News

(*Continued from page 25*)

Ossining branch had as a subject, "Negro Improvement in Ossining."

Ohio: The membership drive of the Cincinnati branch was closed November 29, with a panel discussion on "The NAACP as a Force for Democracy." Approximately 3,000 new members were added to the branch during the two weeks of the campaign.

The Cleveland branch is agitating for the removal of Richard Dudek of Dayton as employment official of the Aircraft Radio Laboratory in Dayton because of his discrimination against Negro women job-seekers.

Pacific Coast Tour: During November, Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary and editor of the *Crisis*, spoke to the following NAACP branches in California: November 3, Sacramento; November 6, Pittsburg; November 8, Alameda County (Oakland); November 9, Vallejo; November 10, San Mateo; November 12, Salinas-Monterey; November 13, Santa Clara County (Palo Alto); November 15, San Francisco; November 17, Fresno; November 18, Tulare; November 19, Bakersfield; November 20, Long Beach; November 22, Pasadena; November 23, Santa Monica; November 24-25 San Diego; November 27, Monrovia; November 29, Los Angeles; November 30, San Bernardino.

Mr. Wilkins visited the Phoenix, Arizona branch, December 2; Tucson, December 3; El Paso, Texas, December 6; Albuquerque, New Mexico, December 7; Pueblo, Colorado, December 9; and Colorado Springs, Colorado, December 10. He also visited a number of army camps, among them, Fort Huachuca, Arizona, where the 93rd Division is in training.

Pennsylvania: At the closing meeting of the annual membership drive of the Erie branch, November 22, Homer S. Brown, president of the Pittsburgh branch, was the principal speaker.

At a mass meeting of the Philadelphia branch, December 4, Oswald Garrison Villard, editor and writer, was the principal speaker. Mr. Villard's subject was, "The Negro in This War."

A branch was organized in Pottstown, November 21, after a two week membership drive in which 150 memberships were reported.

Tennessee: The main speaker at a mass meeting held by the Knoxville branch, December 3, was Madison S. Jones, Jr., youth director, who spoke on the part Negroes are taking in the army.

Texas: The membership drive of the Port Arthur branch closed December 17, and the election of officers was held on the same evening.

Soldiers in far away Australia, New Guinea, England, Ireland, Africa, the West Indies and Arabia will be delighted to receive *The Crisis* each month. Why not send it to them? Foreign subscriptions only cost $1.75 a year.

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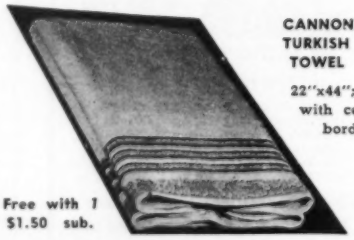

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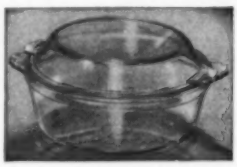

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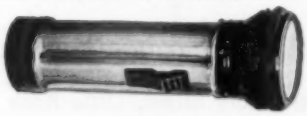

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Two Soldiers

(*Continued from page* 13)

blast flung him an even dozen feet, buried him in the sand; but for the heel of his shoe which had been neatly hewn off, the bomb fragments had gone just above.

From a short distance, the Nazi tankers, thinking surely the Stuka pilot had spotted the United Nations' camouflaged headquarters, turned towards them, cutting loose. But the British and American tanks (those General Grants) came out to meet them, and caught them in a bag.

Resurrecting himself and spitting sand, Private Crabtree crawled back to George, picked him up again and started running, squinting half-blindedly through the dirt in his eyes.

"Set me down, white brother, and save yo'self," George whispered through blood-flecked lips. "Ah hear de chariot comin'."

But Private Crabtree kept running on, through the ankle-deep sand, hot enough to broil a pheasant, through the tanks and the bombers and the bullets and the whole, roaring, screaming, bloody war, hanging on to George.

And even after George was dead, in his heart Private Crabtree still carried him, for days, for weeks, for years, back to home, back to Georgia.

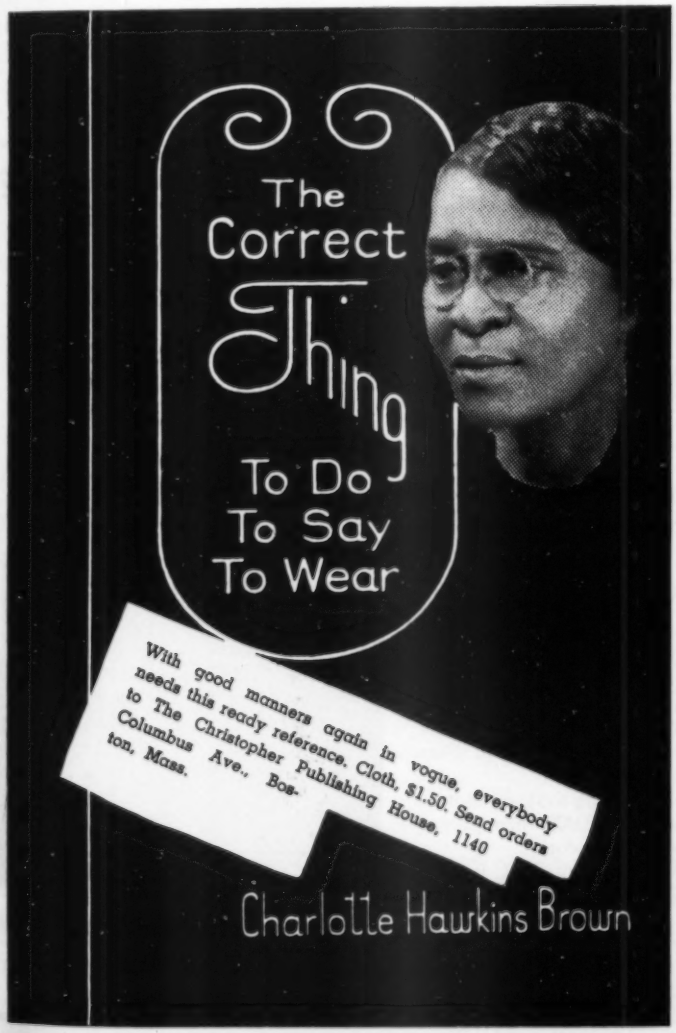
Farmer Goes to War

(*Continued from page* 12)

farmers in mind when it produced recently the documentary film on Negroes in the war called "Henry Browne, Farmer" with Canada Lee, noted actor, as narrator, who says in the closing scenes:

"We're proud of Farmer Browne, though we won't probably give him any medals. Proud of him because he's doing his job . . . an important job . . . raising livestock, saving his land, growing more of the things we need. . . . And proud of him just for being an American we can count on at a time when every American has an important job to do."

Is your loved one in the Navy? Why not subscribe to *The Crisis* for him and keep him informed on current Negro thought and activities?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"We reprint below a portion of an excellent editorial from the spring issue of SOUTH TODAY. It is recommended to our readers that they . . . read the entire editorial, as well as a splendid poem, *Portrait of the Deep South Speaking to Negroes on Morale.* . . .

"The last issue is . . . one of the most brilliant, incisive and forthright publications ever to come out of the South. . . . Your editorial makes clear and unanswerable the moral as well as the social and political issue that has been troubling the 'liberals' even more than the traditionalists of the Old South." C.S.J.

SOUTH TODAY is published quarterly at Clayton, Georgia. $1.00 a year. Single numbers: 50 cents each.

India

(*Continued from page* 20)

would meet the latter's objections to parliamentary democracy, abandon any protection of "minority" rights, re-establish unmitigated Hindu rule, and shove the Depressed Classes back into the pit of degradation from which they are so painfully struggling. But the Depressed Classes—with tens of thousands of men in the Indian Army—warned that they would not accept this. Furthermore, the Congress Party demanded rule not only over the predominantly Hindu areas of British India, but over the predominantly Moslem areas to the east and west—including the great provinces where cooperation between Moslems and Depressed Classes has made democracy work, and which have emphatically rejected the Congress Party and its ambitions of a Party dictatorship. And the Moslems, more powerful than the Depressed Classes, declared that they would forcibly resist any attempt to impose Congress rule—which Moslems have emphasized is a completely imperialist aim.

The Cripps mission failed. And Ambedkar, accepting the post of Labor Minister in the Viceroy's Cabinet, has been in a position as never before to extend the organization of the Depressed Classes, to secure increasingly equal treatment in one area after another, and to promote the combination of the Depressed Classes—India's "bottom proletariat"—with other workers and other liberal and democratic elements in India for the one aim that can bring real freedom to the masses of the Indian people: Democratic liberty and equality, political, social, educational, and economic, without regards to race, color, caste, religion, or previous condition of servitude. It is the full flowering of the old slogan: "Equal Treatment."

To achieve it, the Depressed Classes of India will cooperate with any and all elements sharing their great aim and goal, whether Hindu or Moslem, British or tribesmen, Christian or Buddhist or Sikh. For theirs is not only the hope of their own 60 millions,—the former "Untouchables." It is the only hope of the masses of India as a whole. It is the only hope of the world.

The Month

War: Refuting reports that army and naval race prejudice caused his recall from Liberia, Lester Walton returns to his post as U. S. Minister early in 1943.

The all-Negro Marine Corps battalion at New River, N. C., will serve as combat unit.

Private Napoleon Edward Taylor, Negro, first of AEF to land in Africa.

Despite loss of an arm during Pearl Harbor attack, Obie Bartlett, Negro patriot, works as California shipyard welder.

Soldiers at Camp Lee, Va., reportedly coerced and intimidated by white commanding officer. Regimental Sergeant Major Samuel Reed "broken" and transferred to Camp Dix because of leadership of men.

Ten typewriters given government by Champion Typist Cortez Peters.

Artillery-equipped American Negro troops now firmly established in Liberia with consent of Liberian government.

Mrs. Leila Mea Saunders of Martins Ferry, Ohio, is the first member of the Wheeling, W. Va., branch to be sworn into the WAACs

Army officials continue ban on Negroes as pilots.

Labor: Move to eliminate closed shop agreement barring Negro workers from Savannah, Ga. shipyards made by FEPC, December 4, when orders were given to permit Negroes to join union.

Jim crow local established for Negro boilermakers by union boss Tom Ray in Kaiser Company shipyards of Portland-Vancouver area.

Negro women now employed as section hands by Pennsylvania railroad.

United Federal Workers Union, CIO, plans January conference to discuss Negro employment discrimination in government agencies.

1,000 Negro youths placed in war plants through NYA Production Induction Projects.

FEPC orders Capital Transit Company, Washington, to cease discriminatory practices against Negroes in hiring workers.

Macy's, New York City department store, hires colored sales and clerical workers for first time.

Jessie Owens, Olympic champion, now at work in River Rouge plant of Ford Motor company.

Negro workers during first ten months of 1942 received $1,500,000 through employment in war public works.

Politics: With opening of Congress, January 4, New York Representative Marcantonio promises introduction of anti-poll tax bill.

Education: Eight Negro girls now members of U. S. Signal Corps classes in Cleveland, Ohio.

Approval given Talladega college by Association of American Universities, highest rating agency in America.

Rev. William Lloyd Imes elected president Knoxville college, Tennessee, November 18.

Atlanta, Georgia high school teacher William Hunter Reeves suspended by board of education because of suit instituted by him for commensurate pay with whites.

Color Line: Donald Rasmussen, white Talladega college professor and Louis Burnham, Negro teacher, both fined $25 by Birmingham court for eating together in colored cafe.

Refusal of writ of habeas corpus to Winfred Lynn, objector to jim crow army, by Federal Judge Byers in New York court, December 11.

No Negroes admitted to merchant marine radio operators' school, Gallups Island, Boston harbor.

Negro nurses no longer encounter color line with applications for admittance to New York hospitals for training.

Refused seat on bench by Chief Justice Scheffler after appointment as Chicago Municipal judge, December 10, 1941, Patrick B. Prescott wins suit for $10,000 back pay for year.

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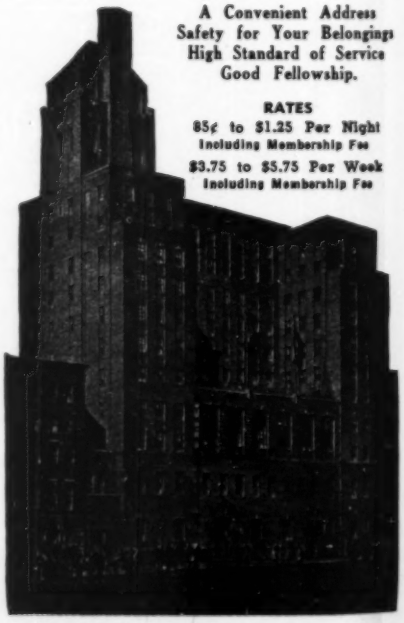

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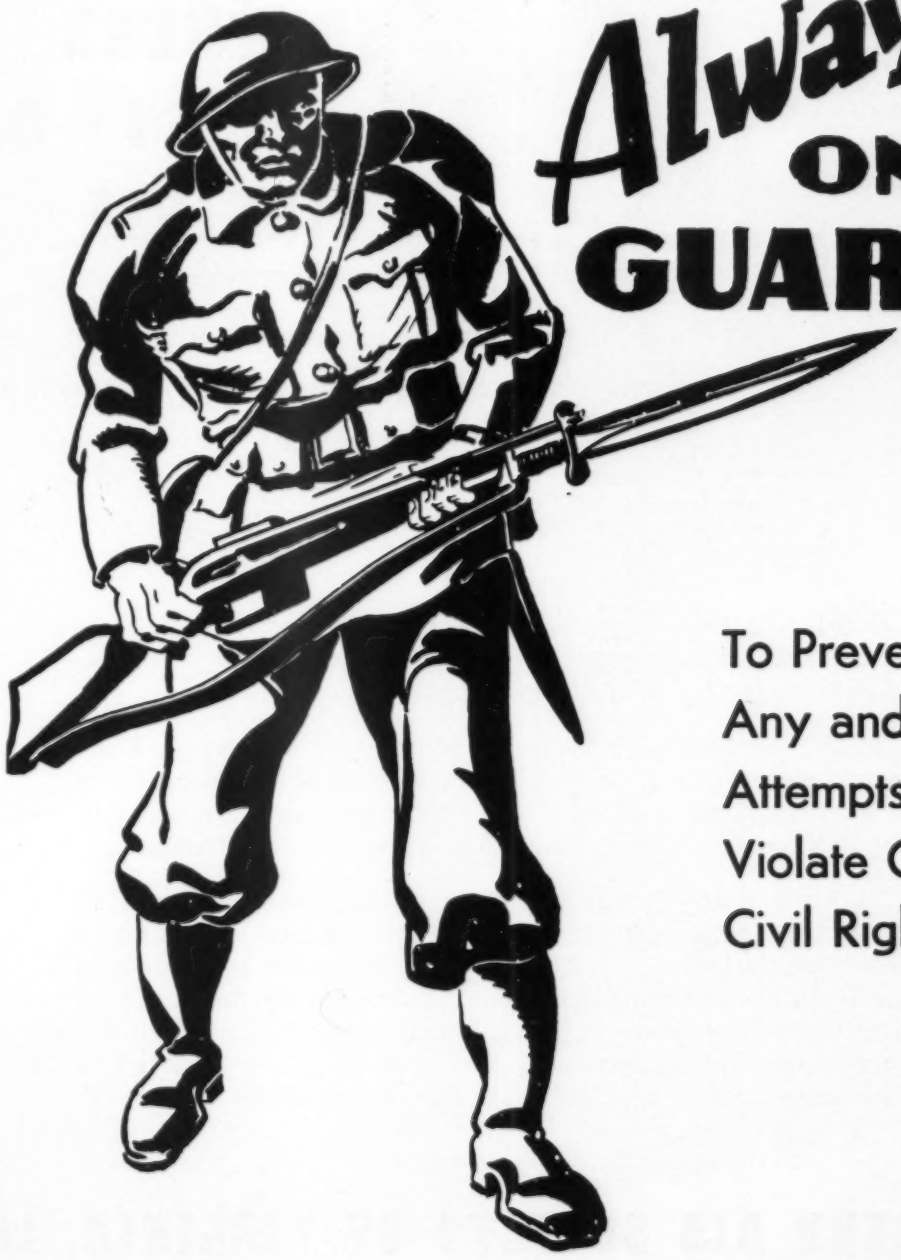

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SOUTHERN AID SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

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invites its readers to act on the following suggestions — not to merely think on them.

FIRST: Combine patriotism with gilt edged investment. Buy War Savings Stamps and Bonds each payday—not the minimum unit—but the largest amount possible.

NEXT: Increase your Personal Security by self help. Take your choice of one of Southern Aid's Superior 3 in 1 Health and Accident Policies or Whole Life, Endowment and Limited Pay Life Policies with Modern Loan and Cash Surrender features.

And then note—that your Dimes or Dollars entrusted to Race Insurance Companies not only give you the best in Insurance Protection, but also give dignified employment to several thousand young race men and women. The larger the share of such patronage given to these companies, the wider will the door of opportunity swing open to your boys and girls when they come back to you from High School or college.

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